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ance and of wide comparative knowledge—these rather than acumen or wit are the pre-eminent qualities in Professor Phelps's book

THE OLD WORLD IN THE NEW. By EDWARD ALSWORTH ROSS, Ph.D., LL.D. New York: The Century Company, 1914.

Of authoritative books favoring the restriction of immigration to America, this by Professor Ross, who wrote *The Changing Chinese*, is perhaps the most readable and the most striking both in its descriptive style and in its graphic representations of statistical facts. *The Old World in the New* is indeed an impressive and rhetorically skilful summing up of all the evidence against the immigrant. What we possibly miss is the methodical and cautious weighing of facts characteristic of those books which merely embody the results of special investigations—that strictly scientific and technical analysis of statistical results which convinces the expert. Professor Ross writes as a man who, having fully made up his mind upon the matter of immigration, after an investigation as careful and painstaking as could well be required, is now bent not so much upon setting forth the details of his research as upon convincing the public of the truth of his own conclusions. Whoever reads this book should know that he is exposing himself to powerful batteries of argument. Professor Ross chooses his points of emphasis with real argumentative skill, and he appeals to our love of home and country in a manner that tends to inhibit other emotions. "I am not one of those," he writes, "who consider humanity and not the nation, who pity the living, but not the unborn. To me those who are to come after us stretch forth beseeching hands as well as the masses on the other side of the globe." By the same token it is true that the author, being as fair as he is skilful in debate, has stated the essential points of the restrictionist case with a clearness and force that leave nothing to be desired. His analysis cuts through the superficial layers of argument and defines real issues. In speaking, for instance, of the bulk of Italian immigration, he writes: "As grinding rusty iron reveals the bright metal, so American competition brings to light the race-stuff in poverty-crushed immigrants. But not all this stuff is of value in a democracy like ours. Only a people endowed with a steady attention, a slow-fuse temper, and a persistent will can organize itself for success in the international rivalries to come. So far as the American people consents to incorporate with itself great numbers of wavering, impulsive, excitable persons, it must in the end resign itself to lower efficiency, to less democracy, or to both." This is not merely an original and clear-cut phrasing of the case; it is the basing of the argument—conclusive or not as that may be—upon a really fundamental principle: the responsibility for the future of America, with whatever it may hold of benefit to mankind, does rest upon us who possess America now.